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Announcement

Central Local Health Integration Network announces members of its first Patient and Family Advisory Committee

Markham (November 9, 2017) – The Central Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) is pleased to announce the founding members of its first Patient and Family Advisory Committee.

The 16-member Patient and Family Advisory Committee met for the first time on October 18, 2017 to begin its important mandate of providing advice on key local health issues and programs from the patient, family and caregiver's perspectives. In addition, it will advise on strategies to engage and communicate with patients, their families and friends, leading to improved patient and health system outcomes.

"We are committed to patient engagement thereby helping to further improve health care in our region," said Kim Baker, CEO of the Central LHIN. "These 16 amazing men and women bring a broad spectrum of knowledge and experience to the table. They were chosen from a talented pool of individuals – all of whom want to actively participate in building a stronger health care system and improving the patient experience for people in the Central LHIN. We are fortunate to have their lived experience and perspectives that will lead to meaningful positive changes in our region's health care."

In addition to their individual qualifications and credentials, the 16-member Patient and Family Advisory Committee is representative of all of the Central LHIN's sub regions. The Committee members are:

South Simcoe
- Diane Hewitt

Northern York Region
- Brooke Ellis
- Diane Bladek-Willett
- Robert White

Ontario
Local Health Integration Network
Réseau local d'intégration des services de santé

Eastern York Region
- Margaret Calver

Western York Region
- Pat Legris
- Michelle Kungl
- Lilan Hulme-Smith
- Yvonne Wright
- Marisa Granieri

North York Central
- Camilla Todesco
- Margo Twohig
- Marlene Remy Thelusma (French Language Services representative)

North York West
- Mike Vandenbogaerde
- Rehba Robert
- Ruby Isaac

The Central LHIN is committed to including the voices of patients, families and caregivers in their health care. Through the Committee's work, community members will have the ability to not just know about the decisions that affect them, but be involved in their development to ensure the best results.

The Central LHIN joins LHINs across Ontario who are establishing Patient and Family Advisory Committees as part of the Patients First Act, 2016.

For more information on the Central LHIN's Patient and Family Advisory Committee, visit www.centrallhin.on.ca.

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About Central LHIN:
The Central LHIN, a Crown agency of the Government of Ontario, is responsible for planning, funding and integrating local health services, as well as delivering home and community care services. The Central LHIN holds accountability agreements with over 90 health service providers, including hospitals, long-term care homes, community health centres, mental health and addiction service providers, and other community support services. The LHIN also works with public health and primary care to focus on patient experience across the full continuum of health care. The Central LHIN, which spans Etobicoke, northern Toronto, York Region and South Simcoe County, has over 1.8 million residents.

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